Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Message Text

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PAGE 01 MOSCOW 12139 261850Z

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C O N F I D E N T I A L MOSCOW 12139

EXDIS

E.O. 11652 XGDS-3 IMPOSSIBLE TO DETERMINE
TAGS: PARM, UR, US
SUBJECT: U.S.-SOVIET PUGWASH DISCUSSIONS ON PNE'S TEST BANS

REF: A. MOSCOW 12099 B. MOSCOW 2581

1. SUMMARY. A U.S. PUGWASH COMMITTEE DISCUSSED PNE'S TEST BANS, NON-PROLIFERATION AND STRATEGIC ISSUES WITH SOVIET COUNTERPARTS AT THE ACADEMY OF SCIENCES AND THE USA INSTITUTE AUGUST 20-22. THEY CONCLUDE THAT THE "PNE ENTHUSIASTS" SUCH AS MOROKHOV HAVE BEEN ABLE TO REACH THE SOVIET LEADERSHIP WITH THEIR ARGUMENTS AND CONVINCE THEM THAT PNE'S ARE NOT ONLY FEASIBLE BUT NECESSARY. THE GROUP BELIEVES THAT SOME OPPOSITION TO THE USE OF PNE'S DOES EXIST, BUT THAT IT IS DISORGANIZED AND HAS IN ANY CASE WAITED TOO LONG TO CHANGE DECISIONS APPARENTLY ALREADY TAKEN. THE GROUP ALSO HAD DISCUSSIONS ON OTHER TEST BAN ISSUES. END SUMMARY.

2. THE COMMITTEE ("SOVIET-AMERICAN DISARMAMENT STUDIES GROUP") IN THIS REINCARNATION WAS MADE UP OF KLEIMAN OF THE NEW YORK TIMES; GARWIN OF IBM; LONG OF CORNELL, BROOKS OF HARVARD, YORK OF CALTECH, AND RATHGENS OF MIT. AFTER CONCLUDING THEIR SESSIONS WITH THE SOVIETS THEY BRIEFED THE AMBASSADOR AUGUST 22 ON THE COURSE OF THEIR DISCUSSIONS. THEIR COMMENTS ON STRATEGIC ISSUES AS WELL AS A FULL LIST OF SOVIET PARTICIPANTS IN THE DISCUSSIONS, HAVE BEEN REPORTED REFT A.

3. THE GROUP TOLD THE AMBASSADOR THAT THE QUESTION OF WHETHER PNE'S ARE TO BE OR NOT TO BE SEEMS TO HAVE BEEN LARGELY DECIDED IN THE
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PAGE 02 MOSCOW 12139 261850Z

SOVIET MIND. THEY RELATED THAT DURING THEIR DISCUSSIONS AT THE

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006

ACADEMY OF SCIENCE, NO OPPOSITION TO THE USE OF PNE'S WAS HEARD.
THE CHAIRMAN OF THE SOVIET DELEGATION. M.A. MARKOV (CHAIRMAN OF
THE ACADEMY'S NUCLEAR PHYSICS DEPARTMENT) DELIVERED A STATEMENT
DEFENDING PNE'S AND EVEN YEMELYANOV (CHAIRMAN OF THE ACADEMY'S
DISARMAMENT COMMITTEE), WHO IN THE PAST HAD EXPRESSED
MISGIVINGS ABOUT THEIR USE (REF B)N HAS NOW TURNED PRO-PNE.
THE SITUATION SEEMED TO HAVE BEEN CHARACTERIZED BY THE STATEMENT OF
ONE SOVIET DELEGATE THAT "MOROKHOV IS NOW IN CHARGE." THE
GROUP REPORTED THAT AT THE USA INSTITUTE DEPUTY DIRECTOR ZHURKIN
DID SAY THAT NOT ALL OF HIS ADVISORS AGREED ON PNE UTILITY. HE
SAID THAT "WE ARE STILL STUDYING" THE QUESTION, AND "THE DOOR IS
NOT YET CLOSED" ON THE POSSIBILITY OF REVISING SOVIET POLICY. THE
U.S. GROUP NEVERTHELESS SEEMED CONVINCED THAT THE MOROKHOV GROUP
HAS WON THE DAY AND IS LARGELY DETERMINING SOVIET POLICY ON PNE
USE.

4. ON THE QUESTION OF PNE COMPLIANCE WITH THE LIMITED TEST BAN,
CHETVERIKOV (COUNSELOR USA DIVISIN, MFA) CONTENDED THAT THE SOVIETS
"ARE VERY CAREFUL" AND ARE ABLE TO AVOID VIOLATIONS. HE DID
ADMIT UNDER QUESTIONING, HOWEVER, THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE RECEIVED
U.S. PROTEST NOTES ON LTBT VIOLATION. WHEN CHETVERIKOV WAS ASKED
WHETHER THE SOVIETS INTENDED TO PROPOSE AN AMENDMENT TO THE LTBT
MAKING ALOWANCE FOR PNE'S HE REPLIED THAT THE SOVIETS HAVE NO
SUCH INTENTION AND THAT RUMORS TO THAT EFFECT ARE UNTRUE. SUCH
AN AMENDMENT, HE CONTINUED, WOULD "CHANGE THE NATURE" OF THE
TREATY. THE GROUP REPORTED THAT AT THIS POINT CHETVERIKOV
REFUSED TO SAY ANYTHING MORE ON THE QUESTION.

5. DURING DISCUSSIONS WITH THE SOVIETS ON A COMPREHENSIVE TEST
BAN, THE U.S. GROUP BROUGHT UP THE QUESTION OF UNIVERSAILTY. THE
GROUP SIAD THAT THE SOVIETS SEEMED WILLING TO SHOW SOME FLEX-
IBILITY ON THE QUESTION OF UNIVERSAL PARTICIPATION IN THE BAN,
REALIZING THAT SUCH A REQUIREMENT WOULD KILL ALL CHANCES FOR SUCH
A BAN. THE SOVIETS SHOWED SOME INTEREST IN A PROPOSAL BY THE
U.S. GROUP THAT A CTB HAVE A TEN YEAR LIMIT, WHICH WOULD ALLOW
RECONSIDERATION BY SIGNATORIES IF THEY BELIEVED THAT THE VAN WAS
NOT TO BE UNIVERSALLY ACCEPTED AND COULD BECOME A THREAT TO
THEIR SECRUTIY.
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